

LIBRARY SCHOOL NOTES

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AUTUMN ENTRANCE EXAMINATIONS

Special entrance examinations are to be held on Friday, August 29. Alumni who know of young people who contemplate library training, or who might be interested in it, are asked to inform them of this chance to enter the School this fall.

COMMENCEMENT

The annual presentation of diplomas and certificates took place at 11 a. m. on Friday, June 6th. Mr. Charles H. Russell, Secretary of the Board of Trustees, presided in a most happy manner, and opened the exercises with words of congratulation to the classes. The address of the morning was delivered by Mr. Hiller C. Wellman, Librarian of the Springfield (Mass.) Library Association, who spoke from the topic "An article of faith." Diplomas were granted to the following:

Bertha Greenebaum, New York City
Thomas Ching-Sen Hu, Wuchang, China
Mildred Noe Johnson, Franklin Grove, Illinois
Dorothy Margaret McMillan, Dover, New Jersey
Adelene Jessup Pratt, Asbury Park, New Jersey
Gertrude Rhodes, Hempstead, New York
Mabel Floy Snyder, West Monterey, Pennsylvania
Elizabeth Thornton Turner, Versailles, Kentucky
Earle Francis Walbridge, North Sheldon, Vermont
Jessie Elizabeth Wing, Troy, New York

Margaret Brock James, of Doylestown, Pennsylvania, pursued satisfactorily the work of the advanced course as given up to April the third, at which time she withdrew for service with the American Red Cross in France.

Those named below received certificates:

Alice Roseline Bemis, Charlemont, Massachusetts
Rosalie Alice Brooker, Cleveland, Ohio
Maude Mara Coffey, New York City
Kate Feuille, Ancon, Canal Zone
Thomas Ching-Sen Hu, Wuchang, China
Delia Bryan Page Johnston, Atlanta, Georgia
Josephine Elizabeth Kenney, Dorchester, Massachusetts
Elizabeth Johnstone McCloy, Oberlin, Ohio
Nelson Wilbor McCombs, Columbus, Ohio
Georgia Rose Michaelson, New Rochelle, New York
Esther Peers, Topeka, Kansas
Elsie Rackstraw, Bay City, Michigan
Marion Metcalf Root, Oberlin, Ohio
Alfred H. P. Sayers, St. Louis, Missouri
Jeannie Grierson Thomson, Titusville, Pennsylvania
Barcus, Tichenor, Indianapolis, Indiana
Charlotte Trolinger, Pulaski, Virginia

Mr. Wellman's address was printed in the June number of the *Bulletin* of The New York Public Library, and is to be issued also as a separate, copies of which will be mailed to all former students of the School.

The other commencement events were the alumni dinner and annual meeting, held on Thursday evening, June 5th, and the luncheon given by the members of the regular class to the advanced students and faculty, immediately after the exercises on Friday morning. Both of these took place at La Maisonnette, No. 12 West 45th Street. They were thoroughly well-managed and most enjoyable occasions.

ANNUAL MEETING OF ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

The secretary of the Alumni Association has prepared the following digest of the proceedings of the meeting held on June 5 for inclusion in this number of *Library School Notes*:

The seventh annual meeting of the Alumni Association was held on the evening of June 5, 1919, at La Maisonnette. There were present 70 members. The first business of the meeting was the election of officers, which resulted in the re-election of Mr. Robert W. G. Vail as president and Miss Maud I. Stull* as vice-president. The amendment to the constitution creating the office of second vice-president was unanimously adopted.

It will be of interest to all our members that there has been formed an Alumni Council, whose aim it shall be to bring the members of the Association into closer cooperation with one another and with the School. The members of this Council are to be appointed by the president, one from each class, a class to be considered as composed of those registered as seniors in a given

* Miss Stull has since resigned, owing to her contemplated removal from New York City.

year, together with those who would have belonged in that class had they taken the second year course. Eventually it is hoped to form sub-committees in the districts in which groups of our graduates are now located.

The idea of an Alumni Council was the direct result of a suggestion given by the Placement Committee. This committee was formed last year, and it aims to notify the School and the graduates of any vacancies or positions of which it hears and which may prove promising. It will continue its work through the coming year.

The president will be pleased to receive suggestions from any member concerning either the Alumni Council or the Placement Committee.

(Signed) JOHANNA L. OLSCHESKY,
Secretary-Treasurer.

ALUMNI COUNCIL

The steps taken by the Alumni Association in creating an Alumni Council and in providing for local sub-committees or chapters of the Association are most important, and the Principal and Faculty hope that the possibilities involved will be fully realized by all former students. The interests of the Alumni and of the School are the same, and any agency which tends to consolidate the common purposes and activities promises advantage to all. The School feels the value of this, particularly as regards publicity, recruiting and placement. Just now, like other library schools, it needs a larger student body; and at all times it is eager that the best opportunities and all possible opportunities shall be at the disposal of former students. Enquiry has shown conclusively that the most effective work in finding prospective students and in turning them toward the School can be done by those who have themselves been connected with it and who have, from their places in the library world, spread the knowledge of the School's usefulness. On the other hand, the loyal alumni who have in the past assisted their classmates and other former students to new positions, whether directly or through the School, have given a demonstration of what can be accomplished in this most practical matter. Well-planned and concerted action may do wonders, and the time seems to have come for a pull all together. The encouraging thing is that openings are numerous and salaries distinctly advancing, so that the arguments for recruiting and the opportunities for placement are most favorable.

WHERE ARE THE WORKERS?

Some of the alumni no doubt have already seen the circular prepared recently by the Association of American Library Schools relative

to the shortage of library workers and of candidates for library training. Although no one is unaware of the situation, it seems worth while to quote at some length from the circular mentioned:

The present scarcity of competent library assistants affects libraries of all types in all parts of the country. Their staffs have been reduced by the resignation of experienced helpers, and there has been no corresponding supply of new candidates for the positions vacated. Just at the time when library work seems most likely to have possibilities for public service which would have been considered impossible a few years ago, these possibilities are in great danger of being unrealized. Many more people are needed to carry the increased work which any further library development requires.

The library schools of the country, with their present enrollment, are not able to supply enough trained people to meet the demands of the libraries. More students are needed at all of the schools...

Opportunities for reaching competent young men and women lie primarily with the institutions and the individuals who are in personal contact with them in schools, or as users of libraries, where information may be given them regarding library service and their interest aroused. Plans for vocations are there being formed at the time when these young people are users of books, and when they should be alive to the attractions of a vocation which combines the double appeal of human service and intimate association with the world of books.

The Association of American Library Schools, which includes eleven library schools in its membership, therefore makes this appeal to librarians for their cooperation in seeking out both young men and young women who have the qualities that seem to make them suited to library work. The schools are eager for your cooperation and will welcome any suggestion which will aid in finding the right sort of candidates for professional training. The schools unite in asking that you will send to the Directors of any one or more of the schools any suggestions you may have regarding this matter, and particularly that you will send to them the names of those who might be interested in library training and to whom catalogs or other information may be sent.

If you are willing to give this practical cooperation, the schools will endeavor in every way possible to provide such training as will make library service more efficient through supplying a greater number of capable helpers for the increased work which the new day demands.

It is more true today even than when this circular was prepared that the opportunities in the library world surpass everything that was anticipated in the past. It is a time for bringing the substantial inducements of library work and the importance of library training before every possible candidate. None can do this as well as the library school graduate, knowing as he does the value of proper preparation and the field lying open to him who has it. Our own graduates are urged to be on the lookout now and in the next year for promising library material, and to preach library work and the Library School of The New York Public Library at every seasonable moment. There is still time for enrollment in the class which will enter this fall, as special entrance examinations are to be held on Friday, August 29.

FACULTY CHANGES

The School is losing with the close of the year the services of Miss Mary E. Hyde, who since September, 1917, has had charge of the instruction in cataloguing and subject headings, printing, and some of the more important administrative topics. By reason of her splendid teaching ability Miss Hyde has contributed much to the School in the period of her connection with it. She came to the Faculty from a similar position at Simmons College School of Library Science, her work there having been preceded by several years of experience as Assistant Secretary and Assistant Librarian of the California Academy of Sciences, and later as head of the Catalogue Department of the San Francisco Public Library. The vacancy caused by Miss Hyde's leaving is to be filled by Miss Mary Hubbard, Reference Librarian of the Spokane (Wash.) Public Library. Miss Hubbard is a graduate of the Western College for Women and of the University of Illinois Library School, and has done graduate work at the University of Chicago. She brings to her new task mature experience as a teacher, for she held positions on high school faculties for a number of years before entering library work, and since leaving the library school she has taught cataloguing at the summer session of the La Crosse (Wis.) Normal School and at the University of Washington Library School.

Miss Marie A. Newberry, who for two years has been in charge of the Training Course for Junior Assistants and has carried the course in Current History in the Library School, left on June 1st for work under the Library War Service. The School regrets her departure, and will miss the energy and high organizing ability which have been responsible for her marked success in the conduct of the Training Course and in her other teaching activities. It has been decided to discontinue the Training Course with the year which is closing.

OPEN COURSES

Announcement has been made in the library periodicals of a series of open courses which is to be offered beginning January 5th, 1920, and continuing for twelve weeks. This will be somewhat similar in plan and purpose to the May Course conducted by Miss Plummer in 1914. The aim in view is to furnish experienced library workers an oppor-

tunity to refresh themselves in some of the broader aspects of library service. The courses will be open to persons who have had adequate library experience and who come with satisfactory recommendations. Those enrolled will be privileged to attend any or all open courses, but no examinations or credentials will be given. The work will be under the direction of Miss Margaret Jackson.

Details remain to be developed, but there probably will be included series of lectures on *Administration, Book-selection, Children's work and literature, Current history, The materials and artistic aid of book-making, Reference work, The relations of the library and the community, Special libraries, School libraries, and Vertical filing*. There is a possibility also of practical work in The New York Public Library and in other local libraries, arrangement for which will depend upon individual needs and the convenience of the library concerned. It is planned also to arrange the schedule in such a way that those in attendance may enjoy freedom to visit libraries and to make the most of the advantages which New York offers in the fields of art, civics, literature, music and drama. In fact the importance of such outside attractions had much to do with the selection of the mid-winter months for the open courses.

The aid of alumni is requested in making known to library workers the opportunity provided by the open courses as planned. The School believes that it can offer something of real value to those who after years of service feel that they need the stimulus of new contacts, and it therefore desires to have as wide publicity as possible given to the announcement.

POSITIONS OF GRADUATING STUDENTS

The new appointments so far accepted by students who received their diplomas and certificates on June 6 are as follows:

Brooker, Rosalie A.	Assistant, Cleveland Public Library.
Coffey, Maude M.	Assistant, Circulation Department, New York Public Library.
Dunlap, Alice M.	Assistant Librarian, Duluth (Minn.) Public Library.
Hu, Thomas C. S.	Assistant, Boone University Library, Wuchang, China.
Johnston, Delia P.	Assistant, Carnegie Library of Atlanta.
Kenney, Josephine E.	Branch Librarian, Boston Public Library
McCloy, Elizabeth	Assistant, Oberlin College Library

McCombs, Nelson W.	Assistant, Bureau of Railway Economics Library, Washington (until Sept. 15th); Assistant, University of Michigan Library (beginning Oct. 1st).
McMillan, Dorothy	Assistant, Morristown (N. J.) Public Library.
Michaelson, Georgia	Reviser, Library School of The New York Public Library.
Peers, Esther	Assistant, University of Michigan Library.
Pratt, Adelene J.	Librarian, Manual Training High School, Kansas City, Mo.
Rackstraw, Elsie	Assistant, Federal Reserve Bank Library, New York City.
Root, Marion M.	Assistant, Reference Cataloguing Division, The New York Public Library.
Sayers, Alfred H. P.	Senior Assistant, Milwaukee Public Library.
Tichenor, Barcus	Assistant, Catalogue Department, Purdue University Library.
Trolinger, Charlotte	Assistant, U. S. Department of Agriculture Library, Washington, D. C.
Walbridge, Earle F.	Librarian, Harvard Club Library, N. Y. C.
Wing, Jessie E.	Assistant, Passaic (N. J.) Public Library.

This list omits mention of posts which several advanced students held while pursuing their school work and in which they are continuing.

SENIOR COURSES

Beginning with the coming school year the senior work will be given in a three month period, January to March inclusive, in which students will devote their entire time to study. This is the consequence of Faculty action growing out of the conviction that the best results are impossible when students attempt to carry both staff duties and school work at the same time. The content of the courses and the amount of study they represent will not be materially changed. Under the new arrangement the senior work will coincide in point of time with the open courses. There will be a clear distinction between the two, however, although auditors will be admitted to some of the senior courses, without examinations and without the giving of credit.

ASBURY PARK MEETING

The School was well represented at the 1919 conference of the American Library Association. The proximity to New York of the meeting-place made it possible for many local people to run down for brief visits, thus swelling materially the number which would normally

be attracted by such a meeting. Over fifty former students and faculty were present for longer or shorter periods. The attendance at the School dinner, which was held at the New Monterey Hotel on the evening of Friday, June 27th, was above forty. The conference offered more than the usual opportunity for extending acquaintance-ship, and it is gratifying to realize that so many alumni were able to take advantage of this.